Control where they had been inducted in large numbers during its armed intrusion and aggression in the Kargil sector.

Statements by Pakistani spokesmen, including General Parvez Musharraf, indicate that Pakistan's assertion of territorial claims in Jammu and Kashmir continue. The State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the terriroty of the State is under Pakistan's illegal and forcible occupation. We will continue to take all necessary steps to safeguard our security and territorial integrity.

India is committed to resolving all outstanding issues with Pakistan in accordance with the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration. We expect Pakistan to demonstrate its adherence to these agreements by the abandoning its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism and hostile propaganda against India.

Compensation claim of Pakistan for Atlantic Aircraft

925. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR;
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan had claimed a compensation from India amounting to more than $ 60 million for shooting down the Pak Atlantic aircraft, which had intruded into Indian air-space across the Kutsch border on August 10, 1999, besides compensation for loss of pilots and others; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Pakistan had approached us through diplomatic channels seeking compensation for the shooting down of its military combat-cum-surveillance Atlantique aircraft, which had intruded into Indian air space in the Kutch sector on 10 August 1999.

The Pakistan military aircraft was on a hostile military mission and was engaged in espionage activity. It had committed a brazen violation of Indian air space as also of the 1991 Agreement between India and Pakistan on Prevention of Air Space Violations. It also

ignored internationally accepted rules of engagement in such situations. The intruding Pakistani aircraft had disregarded all warnings and signals given to it by IAF interceptors. The actions taken by the Indian Air Force were in keeping with internationally accepted operating procedures. The Pakistani military aircraft was well within Indian air space when it was shot down. Pakistan is completely responsible for the outcome and consequences of its action. In response to Pakistan's move, through bilateral channels, to seek compensation Government have publicly stated that this was untenable and absurd.

Pakistan has also petitioned the International Court of Justice in this matter. We have submitted to the court that it does not have jurisdiction in this case.

Pakistan's Position on Kashmir

926. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the then Pak-Premier's Statement in third week of June this year that Pakistan was ready to go beyond its stated position on Kashmir, if India resumes a serious dialogue on Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, whether any clarification about the statement of going beyond Pak's stated position has been given by or sought from Pakistan; so, the details;

(c) whether any assurance about this position has since been secured from the new military regime in Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) The military coup in Pakistan has not altered Pakistan's aggressive approach or hostile policies and propaganda towards India. Pakistan's sponsorship of cross-border terrorism in the State of Jammu & Kashmir and elsewhere has continued unabated. Pakistani forces have also continue firing across the LOC and the international Border in Jammu and Kashmir.